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# The Highlander

Haliburton County's Independent Newspaper

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**Rotary clean -up:** Grade 8 students Damara Scott, Jaden Wilson and McKinnon Casey pick up garbage in Head Lake Park. Story on page 23. Photo by Mark Arike.

## A fight for the forest

MNR sets logging dates despite opposition

By Erin Lynch

Mark Bramham is a self-declared tree hugger. These days he's embracing a stand of Red Oak trees on a parcel of 100-acre crown land that adjoins his property.

Mark and his wife Sandra own Greenmantle farm on the Essonville line. Rocks have traditionally been the Bramhams' passion. With a large number of mineral occurrences on their property, the couple offers mineral tours to the public. An appreciation for the natural world has the Bramhams campaigning to protect the 100 crown acres that border their property. The land situated behind Vinegar Hill is a testament to the Highlands' wilderness: rocky, hilly and lush.

Prior to logging skidders, Mark says the hilly terrain prevented the land from being logged. The land-locked parcel has no stumps, a sign that the forest has not been logged. The crown jewel is an ancient yellow birch hollow that one can stand up in and look at the sky through the living tree.

The piece of property is scheduled to be logged by the MNR between 2016 and 2022.

The Bramhams oppose the logging for a number of reasons, which include the rarity of the property.

"It's an old Oak forest. It's rare to see Red Oaks that haven't been touched. Oak trees provide acorns which create food for moose, deer, squirrels, bear and other animals," says Mark.

Another reason is to protect the minerals on the Bramhams' property. Mark has a mining lease on their property. A logging skidder could damage the abundance of rare minerals that are located close to the ground's surface.

Gareth Davies, Management Forrester for the Bancroft district MNR, says that removing the parcel of land from being logged is infeasible. Davies says they will be using a selection system which involves taking the worst trees first. "It will be harvested," says Davies who says they are open to consultation.

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## Council supports nurse practitioner clinic

By Lisa Harrison

Township of Algonquin Highlands residents may eventually have a new nurse practitioner clinic in Dorset to address what appears to be dwindling health care options in the hamlet's catchment area.

Project delegates Herb Hickling and Bob Lacroix of the Dorset Community Planning Group provided extensive information on Health Care Needs for Dorset Area Communities in their presentation at the Algonquin Highlands council meeting April 19.

The project team includes team leader Hickling, Lacroix (Lake of Bays Township and District councilor), communications lead Sarah Coombs, retired registered nurse Sherrie McAlpine and Algonquin Highlands Ward 1 councilor Gord Henderson.

The health care needs project has several purposes centred on establishing necessary current and future health care services for the Township of Lake of Bays, particularly in Dorset and the surrounding catchment area that includes the adjoining northern and western sections of Algonquin Highlands.

"The health study included a lot of Haliburton people because the study was available for anybody to do, and so when we're talking about Dorset we're talking about people who completed it out of this jurisdiction as well," Hickling reported.

The study's purposes are based on concerns that current health needs are already going unmet in these areas due to "excessive doctor appointments and visit wait times and

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# Algonquin Highlands

## Council vows to increase water access management

By Lisa Harrison

At its April 19 regular meeting, Township of Algonquin Highlands Council resolved to inform the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) that the township approves the MNR assuming ownership of shore road allowances within the Clear Lake Conservation Reserve, except those fronting private property.

Council will also request that the Ministry give consideration to include two offshoot trails as part of the permitted trails and permit the existing docks to remain within the conservation reserve.

"There are 11 properties in there, but based on multiple ownerships there are six property owners. Those people are our focus," said Reeve Carol Moffatt. She noted that the township told the MNR that "our concern is retaining the access for our taxpayers."

The MNR announced in a Preliminary Managements Statement issued February 9 that they planned to expand the 1,307 hectare Clear Lake Conservation Reserve and create more restrictions on use of the area. The proposed restrictions include prohibiting the use of existing logging trails for motorized recreational use, the use of cached boats and canoes on remote lakes and the grooming of existing trails for skiing and snow shoeing, as well as effectively prohibiting trail maintenance for most of the remaining users.

Following several public meetings and a boat tour of the reserve, council determined that the shore road allowance management changes proposed by the MNR will not affect access for emergency services or aged or disabled people.

Council's tour of the Clear Lake reserve raised another reason for the township to approve shore road allowance management

by the MNR: liability. Those in attendance at the meeting who had taken the tour – Reeve Moffatt, Deputy Reeve Liz Danielsen and Ward 1 Councilor Gord Henderson – expressed their surprise and concern over the number of unapproved boats and structures, such as docks and boat lifts.

"It changed my thinking about it," said Deputy Reeve Danielsen. "I had originally thought it was important that we retain the shore road allowances and that level of control. I'm now concerned, given the amount of structures that are there and are not approved in any way, shape or form, about liability for the municipality."

**Liz Danielsen**

Deputy Reeve

*"I'm now concerned... about liability for the municipality."*

Reeve Moffatt reported that, from her discussions with staff and the MNR, her understanding is that the Clear Lake reserve history is out of the ordinary and because the reserve has been used in this manner for many years, the MNR may be considering land use permits for existing docks on the reserve. She added that while boat caching is not allowed in reserves, the Ministry may propose that boat use be managed using a

two-boat, authorized decal system. She said the township has been reassured by the MNR that they will continue to work with the water trails program as they do now; that it will essentially be "status quo" for the township.

Although council is requesting that the MNR retain and maintain the two offshoot trails, Reeve Moffatt noted that the MNR traditionally listens to initial input, but then goes away to make a decision.

She added that Clear Lake proponents have been accustomed to benefits that have traditionally been against regulations on a conservation reserve and so it may appear to them that "things are being taken from them," but that any restrictions will be a case of bringing the Clear Lake reserve closer in line with

traditional reserve management processes.

### 'More vigilant' water access management

The greater part of council's 30-minute discussion about the Clear Lake reserve decision focused on the many boats and unapproved structures not traditionally allowed on reserves that they discovered during their April 12 tour of the area.

The three council members who had taken the tour agreed that continuing to manage the shore road allowances could result in assumption of liability for the township going forward, as well as additional costs for staff to patrol the area and enforce regulations.

On the plus side, council noted that the docks and lifts are "good, substantial structures" and that the area is well-kept and clean. But one of their biggest concerns was the MNR's report that property owners had assured the MNR that the structures had been approved, when that is not the case.

"There isn't one of us who was remotely impressed that all of that stuff has been built there and I think that feedback has to be given to the proponents – people who came to council and anybody else – and say, 'We're trying our best to support you, but why would you build all that stuff... and then tell the MNR [you] had permission for it?'" said Moffatt.

"I think when you go to a site like that... you can just imagine that's not what the public will expect to find," said Henderson. "The first impression I had was that, boy, this is almost an attempted privatization of public space with the structures that were in place there, which is not what we're interested in."

As a result of the Clear Lake tour, council agreed that they will now be "more vigilant" about managing the township's shore allowances on all lakes within its borders and that this could include permits for construction on water-accessed properties.

## Proposed clinic would cut wait and travel times

continued from page 1

excessive hospital emergency wait times" and long drives to hospitals in Bracebridge and Huntsville, while area populations are aging and growing, and trends to decrease hospital budgets and services and establish alternate channels of care such as nurse practitioners (NP) are increasing.

Hickling noted that Dorset is a "rural and remote" community as it sits on the outer edges of the District of Muskoka, Lake of Bays Township and Algonquin Highlands Township, and is far removed from the nearest area hospitals (Huntsville and Bracebridge).

"So when we talk about the health survey, we'll find that the need for folks is to be able to get to some medical services within 15 or 20 minutes, not 30 or 45,

which most of these people have to travel now to get to Huntsville or Bracebridge or Minden or Haliburton," said Hickling.

To date the project team has participated in the District of Muskoka Council Health Needs Study; visited several area nurse practitioner facilities; studied various local and government resource materials that include Ontario Action Plan for Health Care; and developed initial possible solutions, including the nurse practitioner clinic option.

The team's research findings determined that the provincial government continues to look for ways to decrease hospital and other medical service costs due to escalating overall health care costs (which account for more than 50 percent of the province's budget, Hickling reported); rural and remote areas already suffer from lack of primary health care services and prevention facilities, resulting in "excessive cost burdens for ambulance, hospital terms and other medical services" at urban treatment centres; and nurse practitioner services are seen as, and are fast becoming, "an acceptable and sustainable alternative to the traditional medical care system."

Based on their research, the team put forward three alternative available models for primary health care: family health team medical clinics such as the models in Haliburton and the Minden satellite; nurse practitioner-led clinics such as those in North Muskoka and Huronia; and nurse practitioner-managed stations such as the Rosseau facility, which reports to Parry Sound Hospital and which Hickling characterized as the "Cadillac" of nurse practitioner facilities.

"I should maybe say here that I have never been more impressed than when visiting with nurse practitioners," said Hickling. "They are dedicated people, they love what they're doing and their patients love them. I haven't heard anything negative about them in all of our travels."

When Hickling asked why people liked coming to them, NPs replied "Because we give them a half hour." He

related NP stories that many patients are taking too many pills; for example, taking 32 pills a day when they should be taking half of that and so the NPs feel they need to spend whatever time is necessary to assess these patients, who either are not going to their doctors or don't have one.

The team's research also found that nurse practitioner sites often provide better access to extended health care service practitioners such as dietitians and nutritionists.

Next steps for the team will include analyzing the results of the District of Muskoka health Needs Study, mapping potential catchment areas to determine the best available site, assessing demographics within the two townships, consulting with municipal staff and collaborating with community groups, selecting a "best model" and seeking sponsorship with an existing area nurse practitioner facility.

The team has identified several potential clinic sites and now needs to settle on one to take to a potential sponsor over the next few months. Lacroix reported that Huntsville's new nurse practitioner facility is the leading option as a potential hub through which to set up one or more satellite clinics.

The Dorset Community Planning Group intends on fundraising and has filed for charitable organization status in order to be able to approach corporate sponsors for funding.

Reeve Carol Moffat thanked the delegates and congratulated the team on their "fabulous research."

She noted that Algonquin Highlands township space may be included on the list of potential sites for a clinic and that council has been waiting for this report to begin looking at that option, since space may be used instead for additional township staff.

Council supported the project moving ahead and provided a staff contact to ensure ongoing communication.

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# Algonquin Highlands

## Premier's office wants in on Doors open

By Lisa Harrison

Premier Dalton McGuinty's office "wants a bit of a profile at Doors Open locations" and that may include Algonquin Highlands, Ward 1 Councillor Gord Henderson reported to council at its April 19 meeting.

The Premier's office notified Haliburton County, which in turn notified Algonquin Highlands organizers.

"They looked at us and Haliburton... [in regard to] extra attention given, something that has to do with Haliburton Highlands, as part of the program," said Henderson.

Nothing has been specified and there have been no discussions as yet, Henderson told council, adding he will keep council informed.

Doors Open organizers have already raised \$1,000 towards advertising for the event, scheduled for September 15 and 16. Henderson said 10 sponsors have committed to \$100 each and organizers still have more businesses they can approach.

From current sign-ups it appears that the event will feature as many as 18 sites plus a new "venue" in the form of four trails for people to explore, said Henderson.

Sites reported to the Doors Open provincial organizers to date include the Dorset Heritage Museum, the Dorset Scenic Lookout Tower, a Geomorphology Hike at the Frost Centre, the Hawk Lake Log Chute and St. Stephen's Heritage Church.



## Logging to start in 2012

continued from page 1

Davies says that the MNR walked the property with Mark in the fall with a delegation that included the forestry company and a local citizen's committee.

Mark says that one person in the party was unable to walk the property due to ill health. As a result, the group walked only 10 percent of the land.

Mark has told the MNR that he will not allow them to cross his property to reach the land-locked crown land. He also spoke to his neighbours, who he says have agreed to follow his suit. However, people age and property changes hands. There are no guarantees.

"Why can't we just set acreage aside and just let it be. I look at old pictures of Haliburton County and the hills are bare. I'm not saying it was right or wrong. People were starving. We need to think about the future," says Mark.

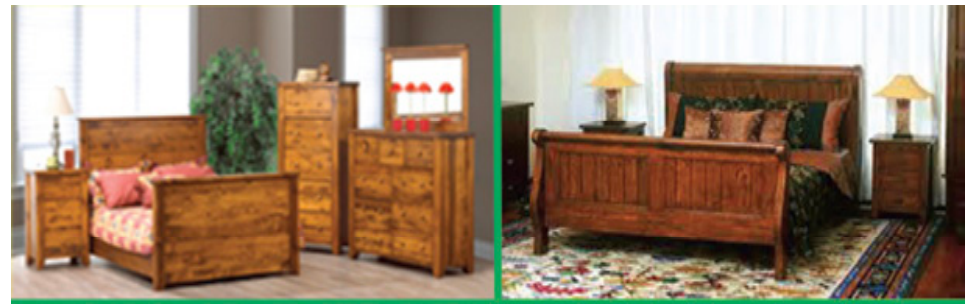
## New staff appointments

By Lisa Harrison

Council approved two new staff appointments at its April 19 meeting.

Mike Thomas will take on the role of Operations Manager for the Township and Adam Thorn will serve as Acting Public Works Supervisor for Stanhope Yard.

Both appointments are effective May 1, 2012.



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# Editorial opinion

Stephen Patrick is off this week.



By Bram Lebo

## Jump in

Congratulations are in order for the County Swimming Pool Initiative (CSPI), an organization which, under the leadership of Chair Gay Bell, recently obtained the \$35,000 it needs to complete a pool feasibility study.

Nobody can dispute the benefits to every age group of having an easily-accessible swimming pool. For kids, lessons are vital to ensure their safety in our landscape of lakes and rivers, our lifestyle of boating and water sports. As they grow older, a pool offers opportunities for competitive challenges and athletic development until, as adults, they can swim for the cardiovascular benefits regular exercise delivers.

Perhaps most importantly, in a region where an estimated 25 percent of residents are seniors, swimming offers a no-impact, year-round environment to build and maintain flexibility, recover from injuries and sustain health. There is no question that regular swimming contributes to a healthy lifestyle; the \$5,000 contribution from the Haliburton Family Medical Centre only underlines that fact.

As the CSPI noted in their announcement, efforts to build a public, indoor pool in the Highlands have been ongoing for two decades. The standard answer from politicians has been that a pool is not financially sustainable; even if, they say, we could get grants and fundraise to build it, the running costs would be onerous, our small population unlikely to make it self-sufficient.

That may be true. Or not. What's welcome about the CSPI's recent announcement is that, finally, we'll have some facts to work with. The CSPI will use their grants to conduct a study into the feasibility of a pool in the Highlands. Such a study, if done properly, would calculate the construction and operating costs and set them off against sources of revenue. These sources may include annual grants, allocations from tax revenues, contributions from school boards, user fees or memberships. If the study shows that a pool could break even, presumably the CSPI would have a good case for moving forward. Involving the YMCA means bringing a wealth of expertise to all aspects of planning, operation and funding, ensuring a dose of realism is applied to the project.

But there are a few caveats. The reliance on telephone surveys could be problematic — just witness this week's poll-defying results in the Alberta provincial election. Many believe that the only people who answer surveys are those who have nothing better to do — not necessarily a representative group.

And those that do talk don't always tell the truth. They're not lying deliberately, but asking someone if they'd use a pool is like asking if they plan to keep their new year's resolutions; the answers may be more wishful thinking than actual predictors of behaviour.

Despite these potential pitfalls, the survey results may not be all that relevant. Fact is, a pool is not an unreasonable amenity to have in a rural community, particularly one where outdoor exercise is curtailed for many people at least six months per year. Despite austerity all over the place, money is still being invested in infrastructure and recreational facilities; our quality of life is just as important as that of people in Toronto and other cities who take advantage of easy access to local pools. There's a good argument to be made that a pool is an important component of a strong community, particularly one that wants to attract new residents, often of the retired variety.

We look forward to the study's results, to seeing if we can build a pool for the Highlands without getting in over our heads.



Richard, Liane & Eve Simmons planting a tree for Earth Day on Baba and Papa's property (Diane & John Dron).



Wilberforce Volunteers work on Earth Day to clear Block B, a local green space, to start a community garden project. Photos by Louise Ewing.



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## Letters to the Editor

### Build it elsewhere

Dear Editor:

I am writing to express my concern about the proposal for a new Tim Hortons in a residential neighbourhood on Cty Rd. 21. I want to be clear that I am not against Tim Hortons establishing a new facility in Haliburton, but feel that a more adequate location needs to be found. I understand that this new business will bring much-needed jobs to our community, but that doesn't excuse the fact that a better location in an area with more commercial activity needs to be selected.

Our community would be better served by locating this building in a commercial area — not suburban residential.

I think that singer Joni Mitchell said it best in her song, *Big Yellow Taxi*.  
“They paved paradise and put up a parking lot.”

**Patty Brydon**  
Haliburton

**Tell us your Opinion**

Send your letters to the editor to [letters@haliburtonhighlander.ca](mailto:letters@haliburtonhighlander.ca)



# Letters to the Editor

## Mind-boggling complaints

Dear Editor:

After reading articles about poor access and cottages with only boat access, it boggles my mind that local residents complained about the Stanhope Airport project that was partially designed so the MNR (Ministry of Natural Resources) water tanker could take off full of water or in a crosswind! Pray that the fire close to your home or cottage has truck access and it's not a windy day.

C Wilson  
Minden

## The wrong location

Dear Editor:

We are writing to express our concerns about the proposal for a new Tim Hortons in a residential neighbourhood on Cty Rd. 21.

My husband and I are adamantly opposed to the application to amend the zoning by-law to commercial and allowing a Tim Hortons to be built in our residential area.

We are not against Tim Hortons establishing a new facility in Haliburton but feel that a more adequate location needs to be found.

We purchased our property, which is located directly across from the proposed site of the Tim Hortons, just over a year-and-a-half ago and have recently built our retirement home on the property.

When we originally purchased the property, we had no idea that the Municipality of Dysart et al would even consider changing a residential area to a commercial area. Had we of known, we would never have purchased our property. We truly hope that the municipality will abide by their official plan and maintain this area as suburban residential zoning.

We have been coming to Haliburton and supporting the local economy for the last 10 years, however, if the Tim Hortons does go in we will need to consider selling our home, which will be difficult once it is built across [the road] from us.

Peter and Karen Warren  
Haliburton

## The Outsider — On the double-double

So, Haliburton will be getting a Tim Hortons. It's about time. I was on the verge of upping sticks and moving my family nearer to Minden.

You see, we immigrants need to keep our Canadiana levels topped up if we're not to get all morose and start pining for the Old Country and there's no better way to do it than to indulge in a bit of old time historic Canada. Well, that and getting a coffee and a donut at Tims.

I love Tim Hortons. I love the bacon and egg in a muffin. I love the Boston Cream donut. I love the coffee (the regular stuff, not all the new fangled frothy versions). I love the fact that whenever you go there's a queue.

This last admission might seem strange, but to me it's a confirmation that I'm doing something that you Canadian folk like doing. I'm fitting in with the local goings-on, the everyday machinations of Haliburton County, which while seeming unimportant, is in fact the stuff that makes up the foundation of our lives.

Whoa, that's getting a little deep for *The Outsider*. But then again, the largest coffee cups in Tims are pretty deep.

What I want to know though, is, if I order a double-double and get it in a 24oz extra large cup, will it taste the same as one in a medium cup? Or do I have to ask for a quadruple-quadruple? Hmm, I can write it but I don't think I can say it; not while ruminating on what donut to get, anyway.

And there's the thing that got me hooked on Tims:

## A tale of manure and verbiage

Dear Editor:

I spent a lovely April afternoon at the old farmstead engaged in that most highbrow of agricultural pursuits: shovelling... um... er ... animal excrement.

And as I worked away, shovelling, forking and breathing through my mouth, it occurred to me that Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid has been up to similar endeavours. Not here in Gelert, of course, which is unfortunate because I sure could've used the help, but rather in her own place at her own pace. She's apparently knee-deep in the stuff. But she's evidently managed to get her hands on the Nimbus 2000 of manure forks, because the product is flying thick and heavy.

Let's start with her offense taken at the term 'hollaback girl'. Picking and choosing definitions to suit your argument is hardly fair. First of all, if you need to look this stuff up at all you're in way over your head. But if you do indeed google the term, you'll notice that 'hollaback girl' is simply a cheerleading term. It refers to the member of the team who hollers back a cheer called out by the leader. A hollaback girl, then, is a follower.

I may have a reputation as a battle-axe, but I would never be so disrespectful as to refer to the honourable reeve as a 'booty call.' You have to admit that's pretty hilarious, not an ounce of maliciousness intended.

The 'tangible economic benefits' ATVs bring to the county have been grossly exaggerated. When is someone going to admit this? I'll say it again: show me the \$55 million. You'd think we would notice if it were lurking

around here somewhere.

As far as 'shoulder seasons' go, there is no shoulder season out here in Gelert. Here on the Rail Trail, it's an all-season free-for-all for our ATV friends. The rules somehow don't apply. There are ATVs droning up and down 10 months of the year. Landowners' fences are laid waste, private property signs are ignored and damage is extensive. I invite any and all to come out sometime and witness the show.

And the comment about side-by-sides [ATVs] being 'virtually indistinguishable from traditional ATVs'... Huh? Are we looking at the same pictures here? Are we watching the same videos online? Whoa.

Finally, 'we are blessed with much space in this county,' Ms. Reid proclaims. Indeed, yes, I can agree with that. We have lots of space here in Gelert. I am thankful every day for my ancestors who worked so hard all those years ago to clear a spot for me to come home to. How many ATVers can claim to be so lucky? Why should my family and I and other landowners be the ones providing space for them to carry out their nonsensical activities? Ms. Reid, would you mind terribly if we re-routed them through your backyard?

I was going to close with some well-chosen words from that greatest of wordsmiths Chuck D, but maybe I'll forego that temptation. Who knows how in the world Ms. Reid would interpret that.

Melanie Sedgwick  
Gelert

## Tell us your Opinion

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and tell my lovely wife about my Tim Hortons revelation.

And so it was an hour earlier than planned when we were back in Haliburton. I quickly bundled my family into the car and we sped to Tims. The wife wondered what was going on, but liking a donut as much as I do, she went along with my excited exhortations about a miracle at the donut shop.

We strode in and I loudly announced, "Two double doubles and a juice for the baby!" The coffees arrived and I watched eagerly as she took a swig.

"Bleaurgh!!! It's got cream in it," she spluttered.

"Yeh, amazing eh," I announced.

"You know I hate cream in coffee," she retorted.

Doh!

In the excitement of my discovery, I had forgotten my wife's aversion to milky coffee.

In 20 years of knowing and loving my wife, I'd never before made such a faux pas. Still, I guess that's the subliminal power of Tim Hortons. A trip there is full of such delights that the brain is liable to go into overload and temporary amnesia can set in.

But hey, who cares. Now pass me another donut and an extra large quadruple-duple.



By Will Jones

# Dysart et al

## Club wants more mountain bike trails

By Will Jones

Haliburton County and Dysart et al in particular could become a mountain biking mecca if delegations at the April 23 meeting of Dysart council are anything to go by.

Joining the usual suspects in the public gallery were a group of young, fit athletic types who formed two delegations: the first, representing the newly formed Haliburton Highlands Mountain Bike Club and the second, Sean Ruppel of mountain bike event organizer Chico Racing.

First to present to council was the Haliburton Highlands Mountain Bike Club. Putting forward a proposal to create riding trails in Glebe Park, the club outlined its desire to create a series of signed trails of varying difficulty levels throughout the park.

The proposal stated that there are approximately four kilometres of trails that are already used regularly by mountain bikers; to this it would like to add a further six kilometres of trails within the park and another six kilometres on municipal land north of the Dysart landfill.

Club secretary Darren Lum told of how the Glebe Park Management Committee and the Haliburton Highlands Nordic Ski Club have endorsed the proposal.

Working with the Glebe Park Management Committee, the mountain biking club has put forward a network of trails that minimize impact upon the park by using the existing double track ski trails and now defunct snowshoe and hiking trails. The proposal also assured council that trails would steer clear of any areas identified as sensitive in the Park's Stewardship Plan.

Reeve Murray Fearrey listened to the delegation before asking whether the new club had talked with existing local mountain bike operations and about liability in case of an accident. Lum said there had been discussions with Sir Sam's Ski & Bike and that an agreement had been made to charge a \$10 fee for use of the new trails, as per the fee at the ski hill. He also detailed how the club had consulted with both the International Mountain Biking Association and Oasis

Insurance – who also insure the local snowmobile club – and that liability insurance to the tune of \$5 million could be provided.

The reeve was reassured and stated, "If you can verify the insurance then we're good to go."

Similarly, Reeve Fearrey was impressed with the presentation by Ruppel, who came to discuss bringing back Crank the Shield, a three-day mountain biking event, to the county.

The event has been staged here three times in the past and Ruppel estimates that it brings over \$150,000 and around 400 visitors into the county each time it is held. He explained that the trails would run through private property on the first and last day. On day two he wants to bring the bikers through Haliburton Village, up to the lookout at Skyline Park Rd.

"It would be great to allow the riders to come through the village and up to the lookout," said Ruppel. "It gives them and their supporters a real feel for Haliburton and an awesome view as they stop for a drink break."

Ruppel went on to explain how he has attracted two riders from the Canadian Olympic team to appear at the event and that he believed that Haliburton County could become an important destination for mountain biking if it was encouraged.

Finally, he said, "I always look forward to coming to Haliburton and to bringing my races here. I hope to also bring the Ontario Cup Provincial Series here in the near future, which includes 600 riders, their families and fans, too."

Reeve Fearrey nodded in agreement and stated, "This is the kind of event that we're keen to attract to the area, something that will bring business and tourists to Dysart."

Council passed the resolution authorizing Chico Racing to move forward with its plans for Crank the Shield 2012.

The 2012 edition of Crank the Shield starts and ends at Haliburton Forest. It will run from Friday, September 14 to Sunday, September 16 with riders staying at Camp White Pine.

## Watercolours back on the table Council revisits site plan for 134-unit condo

By Will Jones

Anyone who thought the Watercolours Condominium Development had finally been put to rest when Granite Cove rose out of the ground on the lakeside site in front of it would be mistaken. The 134-unit development was brought before Dysart council at its April 23 meeting and the proposed site plan discussed.

While Dysart's planning department has reservations about the site plan, it advised councilors that the plan could be approved in principle subject to the completion and approval of the required hydrogeology study; the amendment of the applicable plans as detailed in a list of requirements provided; and the execution of a site plan agreement, which would include the payment of all related development charges and fees, and the submission of security to ensure the proper construction of the project.

However, local resident Stephen Foster was opposed to the development on multiple levels. Foster outlined specific concerns with groundwater supply, non-compliance with parking space provisions and the calculation of ERU allocation, perceived future water shortages due to overuse by large scale development and the potential negative impact on the real estate market due to a large number of units suddenly becoming available.

Reeve Fearrey and the councilors listened to Foster, making remarks as he went through his concerns.

"You have to remember that the information we have at present is a preliminary peer review," said Fearrey, as Foster outlined his concerns about water availability. "We note your concerns and are aware of the issues, but they are not part of the site plan approval. We will address them when we come to them."

Foster said he was glad that council was aware of the matters he was talking about and continued to list his issues with the development, such as it covering 37 percent of the lot – some 12 percent more than the 25 percent maximum, the lack of provision for loading spaces and the width of parking spaces.

Eventually, Reeve Fearrey interjected and stated, "We are here today to deal with the site plan (i.e. will the building fit on the site). I know you are raising valid issues, but are they concerned with what we are here to do today?"

Foster completed his presentation, stating that council could require the developer to carry out more studies into issues such as the impact upon the local water and address current non-compliances.

Fearrey said, "We have put these people through a lot of work already. They have been committed from day one and jumped through every hoop. To start asking them to revisit these areas again is a big ask."

"We have the community to think about and we'll do that. If we get this right it'll work. What we have to do now is work with the developer to try to find a solution."

Foster stepped down and council passed the site plan proposal in principle with conditions suggested by the planning department.



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# Highlander arts

## Branching out in a big way

### Coal Chamber reunites and welcomes Chela Rhea Harper as bassist

By Mark Arike

All those countless hours spent locked away in her room with nothing more than a bass guitar and a notebook are starting to pay off for 27-year-old Chela Rhea Harper.

Late last year, this former Hal High student seized an opportunity that placed her and her favourite instrument – the bass guitar – in front of 75,000 screaming fans at the Soundwave Festival in Australia. And come this September, she'll be jetting off to South America for her next gig.

How'd it all happen? A popular, alternative heavy metal band from the 90s, Coal Chamber, discovered her music online and agreed that they had found a unique talent they wanted.

"It was kind of weird," said Harper in a recent phone interview. "I didn't even know about it – I was contacted by them."

The band, which disbanded after a 10-year career in 2003, was looking at making a comeback. All of the original members of the band returned, with the exception of their bass player.

"A friend of our singer, Dez [Fafara], was helping him look for a bass player. He sent Dez my music and he really liked it," said Harper, who grew up admiring and learning their tunes.

"She's a hell of a player, so I really respect that," said Fafara in an interview on Soundwave TV.

Harper was supposed to meet with the band in Los Angeles months prior to the big show in Australia, but scheduling conflicts prevented that from happening. Instead, they met up to rehearse just one week before what would be the band's first performance in eight years.

"They basically had 100 per cent faith in me that I was

actually able to play the songs. It was pretty cool that they trusted me like that," said Harper, admitting that it was the first time she didn't go through an audition process.

The band believed in her playing abilities, passion for the music and they were happy that she could play a five-string bass. Last September, they officially announced the appointment of their new bass player.

Born in Toronto, Harper moved to the Highlands with her mother and stepfather when she was 16. Growing up surrounded by a family of musicians, music was always a part of her life.

"Both my parents are musicians, that's how they met," she said.

Her father, Carl Harvey, is a member of the well-known Jamaican group Toots and the Maytals. Her mother, Lea Harper, is a musician and writer who resides in the Highlands.

Other than the time that she shared the stage with her mother in front of 5,000 people at the age of six, Harper didn't have much experience performing for massive crowds.

"Before I went to Australia, I had crazy anxiety about going on stage. But once I was actually there, it was gone," she said.

Five weeks worth of practice is what helped her overcome her fear and pull off a flawless performance.

"The best way to conquer fear like that is to be so prepared that you can't even feel nervous."

With 95 different bands in the Soundwave line-up – including household names like Slipknot and Marilyn Manson – and a total of five cities on the tour, it was an experience unlike any other for the young bassist. The reaction from the fans also was a shocker.

"When we got off the plane they were yelling 'Coal Chamber' and it was the first time I ever experienced anything like that," she remembers. One fan went so far as to get Harper's autograph tattooed on her body.

From the time that she was two, Harper says she knew that she wanted to be a musician. continued on page 9

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Chela Harper on stage at the Soundwave Festival in Australia. (If you'd like to see more photos of Coal Chamber and the festival visit [www.nicbezzina.com](http://www.nicbezzina.com))



By Victoria Ward

## Is money an art form?

In writing this column, I run the risk of creating domestic issues in my home. But it's my birthday so I figure I can let my desires guide me. Let me explain: My partner and I agree on many things. We both strongly believe in creating independently driven art that is challenging in tone and populist in feeling. Generally, we come down

on the same side of most issues; however, at times our perspectives can differ, which makes for just enough tension to keep things interesting.

We strongly disagree about the artist Damien Hirst. Hirst is the world's richest artist and comes from a generation of British artists groomed on shock and the grotesque. He has a retrospective at the Tate Modern in London right now, fittingly, the world's most overexposed art gallery.

His is the work that I mentioned several articles ago, wherein he put a decomposing shark in a tank of formaldehyde and pretended it meant something about time. He has been photographed with a dead man's head; reconstructed an entire pharmacy in a gallery; filled a glass vessel shaped as his own head with blood and has now made enormous paintings with different colour dots that are as banal as they sound. My partner believes him to be the instigator for all that is wrong with current art practices and his influence of pranksterism and just plain hokey. He is the emperor with no clothes.

I just think of Hirst very differently. I think he is quite brilliant and has used the hyper inflated international art world and its very low standards to create work that

manipulates the media and the world of commerce. I believe that Hirst has made cynicism its own art form. I do not blame Hirst for his success; I blame the larger community he lives in: that of money, comfort, style over content, hipsterism, indifference and most importantly money – or did I already say that? Yes, his art form is money.

And he does make a lot of money. He may be worth several billion dollars and all because his dreadful work is placed on a pedestal of honour that was once devoted to people like Picasso and Salvador Dali. Dali was himself a prankster who used publicity and commercial gain to enhance his coffers and notoriety, however, most of his work was actually good. Hirst's just isn't. It's really terrible work. I've seen it up close and personal. It's cheap looking, badly thought out and uninspired.

His ideas aren't even that well executed – the shark thing could have made a real statement regarding death and funereal ideas; however, he was happy to leave it unadorned of intellectual rigueur, making it infamous in tabloid sensibility and fodder for the lowest kind of thinking. He reminds me of that great quote by Dolly Parton, "It takes a lot of money to look this cheap."

Hirst's bad ideas and sensibilities are a one finger salute to our consumerist, commodified culture writ large. He doesn't even try to make his work or himself seem elevated; it is the curators, investors, critics and public who have spent so much money and time on him who do that. They struggle endlessly to give him the respect they think he deserves only because of their vanity, money spent and tragic misunderstanding of his oeuvre.

Globe columnist Russell Smith put the whole Hirst question into its proper perspective when he saw him as being on

## State of the Arts

the same continuum as the American kitsch painter Thomas Kinkade who died recently. Kinkade was also worth tons of money but his work isn't awful in the same way Hirst's is. It is awful because it tries so hard to be saccharine sweet, devoutly religious and Disney-esque. It is candy floss as landscape. They both dwell in kitsch, Smith says, because money has made it valid.

Validity comes from the sheen of wealth in our culture. We like it when things look expensive. Poverty is a drag. Poor people don't make good adverts; they look tired, angry and deeply disenfranchised. Artwork without funding looks the same; the days of caring about the impoverished artist are very much over. We now like our artists in great shoes, with first class airplane tickets and celebrity spots on the red carpet.

An acknowledgement needs to be made that money isn't a means to an end anymore, but in fact a legitimate belief system (the stock market), an all encompassing way of life (home ownership) and the only employment that can be had (the financial industry, although reports that small tech firms are growing in stature give me hope).

I think, however, if the media were to accept their ignorance about Damien Hirst and reveal his true intentions – that money is his art and that art is money – perhaps a real dialogue would emerge that could provide some solutions to funding the arts in these austere times. Little places like our county would benefit from this kind of dialogue since most of us here live on nothing but potential for the most part already.

This column might come to you by my forfeiting cake this weekend, but darn it, it's my party and I'll write what I want to!



# Highlander arts



A photo shoot with the band in front of the Sydney Opera House for Hysteria Magazine. Photo courtesy of Hysteria Magazine.

Her years at Haliburton Highlands Secondary School helped her grow as an artist and discover the genres that she appreciates so much today.

“When I started playing base I taught myself, but I had my friends Ryan Chalmers and Justin Hie teach me a few songs. I just went home and I practiced other people’s songs,” she said. Songs by the bands Tool and System of a Down were on her practice list.

Unlike most youngsters who get sent to their room for causing trouble, there were times that she would get in trouble for spending too much time in hers.

“I was literally grounded from my bass and my room. All I ever wanted to do was play my instrument.”

“High school was when I realized that I wanted to play metal,” she said, adding that she participated in the school’s battle of the bands.

She says she picked up the bass guitar because she didn’t want to play guitar and be the same as her parents.

Following high school, Harper briefly studied audio engineering in Toronto. She left early because of the price of the program.

“I took it upon myself to learn it [audio engineering] at home. I had all my notebooks, so I’d go through them with my sound board program at home. It was a lot of trial and error and I just got really familiar with recording.”

With the support of her mom and part-time jobs – including a position at an optician’s office – Harper managed to get by.

Her most recent adventure has taken her on a bit of rollercoaster ride, but the support from her bandmates has kept her going full speed ahead.

“They’re super nice and protective of me, which I appreciate,” she said.

“They’ve been going for so long that I think they just want to reach out to the old fans and play in places where people have never got to see them.”

When asked if she’s “living the rock star life,” Harper simply laughs at that preconceived notion.

“That’s a funny misconception. A lot of people, like fans on Facebook, will say that stuff to me. My life is exactly the same, actually.”

Over the next couple of months, she plans on spending quite a bit of time in Haliburton to help her mom with her cottage rental business. Then, at the end of August, she will fly out to L.A for rehearsals in preparation for the South America tour.

Should Coal Chamber once again rise to the top of the heavy metal music scene, Harper says she will not let the fame get to her.

“I’m not afraid that it will happen to me. For me, being successful is being able to play music. It’s not really about being recognized,” she said, explaining that she enjoys connecting with fans around the world and learning about their

cultures.

“I really try to make a point [to make sure they know] that I’m not above them. If it weren’t for the fans, there wouldn’t be any success.”

She also is extremely grateful for the support of her family.

“I was really lucky. Everything I accumulated over the years was from my parents,” she said, referring to instruments and other equipment that she has been given. “I always had that support, which was really, really good.”

For the youth of the Highlands seriously considering a career in music, Harper has her own words of advice.

“If you’re passionate about it, just be ambitious about it. Practice and make it so that you have something to offer. Don’t just concentrate on being successful.”

She also encourages young budding artists to do what they can to get their music out there.

“I still give my music away. I’ve never sold a CD in my life. I can’t.”

Harper has given serious thought to what she’d be doing if music weren’t in the picture.

“There are a few things that I’m interested in. I’ve thought about being an optician. Or anything physical, such as a personal trainer.”

Hobbies she enjoys include drawing and hula hooping (but not just the regular kind).

“I’m huge into hula hooping,” she laughs, “but not just around the waist. I’ve learned hybrid, circus hooping. The reason I started was because I wanted to spin fire.”

Harper’s mom, Lea, is very proud of her daughter’s talents and accomplishments.

“I’m very happy that she’s playing bass... It’s sort of kick-starting her career. It’s really opened up the door for her and given her confidence,” she said.

“Like her father, she learns very quickly. She picks up music, harmonies and strings without a problem. There’s nothing she can’t do.”

In addition to getting in the spotlight with Coal Chamber, Harper was chosen to be a featured artist on the esp guitars.com website.

“That was a huge honour,” she said. The popular website receives around two million hits per month.

The company, which has given Harper several of her favourite bass guitars, had this to say about the young Highlands’ artist: “We’re sure that you’ll be hearing more about Chela and Coal Chamber in coming months. We’re happy that, following in her family’s footsteps, she’s part of the ESP family!”

To see the full article visit [www.espguitars.com/news/spotlight-chela.html](http://www.espguitars.com/news/spotlight-chela.html).

You can also find her music and a number of live performance photos by searching ‘Chela Rhea’ on Facebook.

## Babar closes Razzamataz season

### Family entertainment for kids of all ages

By George Farrell

Everyone loves *Babar*.

That was evident at YMCA camp Wanakita on Sunday, April 15 as over 100 kids, parents and grandparents gathered to watch the popular production. Presented by Little Red Theatre, *Babar* was the fourth presentation this year from Razzamataz Kids shows, which is now in its 26th year of bringing such theatre to ‘kids of all ages.’

The previous three shows were staged at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion, but *Babar* was staged at Wanakita because the camp generously donated the space for the occasion. And what an occasion it was.

Written by Jean De Brunhoff, *Babar* is about a young elephant (with the same name) who goes to the city and then eventually goes back to the jungle to tell the other elephants about his discoveries. Babar becomes king of the elephants and he tells his children all about his adventures.

It’s a simple tale well-told by the Little Red Theatre group who used large puppets, costumes and sets effectively. Audience participation was also used to its full advantage.

Adam Proulx, who played Babar, went out into the crowd to cavort with the wide-eyed kids and co-stars Rebecca Perry and Veronique Auger, who played a variety of roles, also led the audience in song.

“We get most of our funding through grants, and we also get assistance from our sponsors and donations throughout Haliburton County,” said Dawn Hurd, chair of the Razzamataz Kids Shows committee “We’d like to thank them all for a successful season.”

The committee is always looking for volunteers to keep shows like *Babar* coming on a regular basis. If you’d like to help with these excellent Razzamataz presentations, give Dawn a call at 705-445-9435.

*Peter Pan* and *Wind in the Willows* are two of the shows in next year’s lineup.

More information can be found at [www.razzamataz.ca](http://www.razzamataz.ca).



Actors Rebecca Perry, Adam Proulx (Babar) and Veronique Auger wowed the crowd at YMCA Wanakita during the production of *Babar*.



# Halistoria weaves its magic on stage

By Douglas Pugh

The audience were extremely supportive and suggested possible changes to the narrator's name, as well as discussing ideal



The character of Terra, played by Julie Barban. Mask created by Halls Lake artist Karen Sloan.

local settings for the initial staging of the play later this year.

“Spectacle theatre should not only fit in with the landscape that it’s held in, but use the setting as an active part. Halistoria is a collaboration of choreographers, dancers and writers and it is very much the substance of Haliburton that underpins the production,” said Fay.

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# Highlander arts



Chris Halls's frog, turtle and saxophone sculptures drew plenty of attention.



Top left: VCAD Student Nicole Bruce and her art made of found items. Top right: Jennifer Wilson-Bridgman kneels beside her sculpture, "offering". Above: Tables of art lined the Great Hall. Photos by Mark Arike

## Fleming students dazzle with artistic displays

By Mark Arike

Students at the Haliburton School of the Arts were placed in the spotlight during the end of semester art show and sale on Saturday, April 21.

Titled *I Made It!*, the one-day event featured

the works of students in the Visual and Creative Arts Diploma program (VCAD) as well as the college's many certificate programs. Art mediums represented included painting, drawing, jewellery, glassblowing, sculpture and mixed media.

## Fish hatchery hosts Juno awards nominee

By Mark Arike

Multi-award winning artist Dave Gunning brought his talents to the Haliburton fish hatchery on Thursday, April 19 at a concert hosted by the Haliburton County Folk Society (HCFS).

Like his opener, local performer Thom Lambert, Gunning started the show with a song about the seasons.

"I find we're pretty lucky to have the seasons," said Gunning, an East Coast musician who was born and bred in Pictou County.

In addition to performing the songs that led him to a Juno nomination earlier

this year, Gunning talked about the great artists that inspired him – such as the late Canadian folk singer John Allan Cameron.

"I first saw him in concert in '81," Gunning told the audience. "It changed my life for sure."

Before finishing his first set, Gunning said, "This is the perfect Ontario gig right here," as he pointed at the outdoorsy fixtures found in the hatchery.

The next HCFS concert will take place on Sunday, May 13 at The Wild Moose and will feature "The Man of a Thousand Songs"

Ron Hynes. Tickets are available online at [www.madeinhaliburton.ca](http://www.madeinhaliburton.ca).



Local opener Thom Lambert.



Dave Gunning settles into his performance. Photos by Mark Arike.



# County news

## Adam Clark remembered

### Outpouring of support shown to family after accident

By Mark Arike

Adam Clark swore he would never buy a car. He cared too much for the environment and wanted to reduce his carbon footprint as much as he could.

In the wee hours of Tuesday, April 17, the 24-year-old Haliburton man who was simply riding his bike home from a late shift at work was killed in what his family describes as a freak accident.

"It was a really windy night and he was only about 500 metres from his driveway," said Adam's father Robert Clark. "They [the police] figure that the wind caught him."

"The winds could have caught the vehicle as well," added Adam's mother Jean Clark, who now lives in Oshawa.

According to a report in *The Kingston Whig Standard*, Clark was hit around 1:20 am while riding his bicycle on Hwy. 15 north of Kingston. According to the Frontenac Ontario Provincial Police, a northbound vehicle struck him from behind.

"He was wearing a helmet, had a light on his bike, safety glass, reflectors on the pedals... he had everything you're supposed to have," said Jean.

Adam was killed instantly after the impact sent him 20 metres off his bike into a ditch. The driver of the vehicle – who the family has confirmed as being a 21-year-old male – stopped to assist, as did other drivers.

As of press time, charges haven't been laid and Adam's family has been told that alcohol or drugs weren't a factor. "I'm sure he'll blame himself for the rest of his life, but we don't blame him," said Adam's big sister Adrienne.

This past Tuesday, Adam's stepmom, Mary-Lou Clark, told *The Highlander* that her and Robert had arranged to visit with the young man involved in the accident.

The news of Adam's untimely passing sent the family on an emotional rollercoaster. Robert recalls the moment he found out what had happened after local officer Mark Davies paid him a visit.

"The officer came to the door at four o'clock in the morning. The dog went ballistic at the door," said Robert, explaining that he at first thought it was one of his children who pulled in

the driveway.

"He [Mark Davies] asked, 'Are you Mr. Clark?' I said, 'Yes, I am.' He said, 'I have some bad news for you.'"

Robert phoned Adam's mother several times before finally reaching her. He went over to his daughter's home, which is within walking distance of his place on Old Donald Rd., to tell her in person.

Adam's best friend, 24-year-old John Mackenzie, was supposed to play online video games with him that night. He was the last person in contact with Adam before the accident.

"The last text message I got from him was at 11:45," recalled Mackenzie. "He was getting ready to leave work and he said he'd be home at about 1:20 [am] to be online to play."

The final text he sent Adam was around 2 am.

"I wondered why he never answered back. He would never usually leave you hanging."

Born on December 21, 1987, Adam grew up in the Highlands. His parents moved to the area in 1982 and bought the business Blue Haven Trailer Park on Cty. Rd. 21, now Jay Lake Tent and Trailer Park. Robert and Jean ran the business for six years before Robert joined the school board as a custodian.

After high school, Adam moved to Oshawa to stay at his mom's for a brief period of time and then went to study digital media at Loyalist College. Although he didn't finish the program, it was when he learned "life lessons," says his family.

"He became Adam Clark there," said Jean.

"He went from being a very shy guy to very outgoing," added Adrienne.

Adam eventually returned to the Highlands and held a part-time custodian job at Fleming's Haliburton campus.

"The college loved him," said Robert, adding that his son "tried so hard" to find a full-time job in the area.

And because of his struggle to find full-time work, he moved to Kingston a few months ago. He moved in with his aunt and uncle and found work at a cabling company owned by Jean's brother.

The most recent job he held was as a custodian – the last job he'd ever have. He was just about to start a second job as a cook.

Adam's family says he loved playing around with cameras, video games, the outdoors and being an uncle. He was looking forward to getting his own place.

"He said to me, 'I'm getting my life on track. I've got opportunities for a career job that I can make like yours, dad,'" said Robert.

His 28-year-old sister beams with happiness when remembering her brother's hugs and kind words.

"Every time we'd talk we'd say, 'I love you bro, I love you sis.' And he wouldn't give wussy hugs," she said.

Last Christmas, Adam's mother shared a special moment with her son – one she won't forget.

"He said he always knew he had a home with me if he wanted it... He said, 'You helped make me who I am,'" remembers Jean.

Lois Adamson, Adam's grandmother, fought to hold back tears as she tried to find the



Adam Clark shares a happy moment with his big sis Adrienne. Photo submitted by Adrienne Clark.

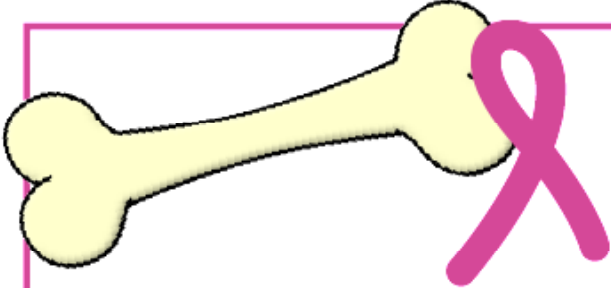
words to remember her grandson.

"He was a wonderful grandson," she said. "I will always remember him with us."

A celebration of life was held for Adam at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home on Saturday, April 21. According to his stepmom Mary-Lou, over 100 people came to show their support.

"There was a huge turnout," she said. "Pretty much every teacher who taught him was there."

The family thanks all those who have shown them support during this difficult time.



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# County news

## Condo projects on schedule

### Developer hopes to begin second site in August

By Will Jones

Even through the rain and snow squalls of earlier this week, the rise of Granite Cove is plain for all to see. Sitting on the shores of Head Lake, the new condominium development has reached full height and it's now crowned with a pitched roof resplendent with multiple pediments. The windows are also in and while the external siding is yet to be installed, work is racing along inside.

"We're very pleased with progress to date and we're on schedule to have folks moving in by October," says Doug Gray of Muskoka D&M. "We're getting it done, rain or shine," he adds with a smile.

Work at the site has continued throughout the winter and so the current inclement weather has not slowed down progress in the slightest.

"We were very fortunate with the relatively mild winter and the only way snow would slow us down now is if we had a foot or more overnight; then we'd have to spend time shovelling," says Gray. "As it is, the building is now weather-tight and most work is inside; we're working on internal finishings so there's no fear of the weather interrupting that."

Work on the external facades is due to take place in the next couple of months, according to Gray. And, it is then that he believes people will really appreciate the quality of the Granite Cove design. With the installation of external siding the building will blend with its backdrop and be less conspicuous than in its current state – that of a giant sugar cube teetering on the edge of Head Lake.

"Once we get the siding on you'll see just how well the building fits into the neighbourhood," says Gray. "At the moment the ugly colour of the ICF construction makes it stand out, but with the siding will come a completely new look that'll be totally in tune with the surroundings."

Meanwhile, across the lake, Muskoka D&M's second condo project, Granite View, is yet to rise from its site but Gray hopes to start work by August. The company has finalized

designs and floor plans and it has all the necessary approvals in place.

"We are continuing to work with the neighbours of the project to ensure that we address their concerns, but we have not come up against any issues that will stop the project," says Gray.

"I have to commend the community and the municipality for the terrific support that we have received during our work in Haliburton. Whether they are councilors, municipal staff or members of the public, we've been able to communicate well and work through any issues that we have come up against. And, we'll continue to do so."

Realtor Peter Brady of Trophy Property Corp echoes Gray's sentiment.

"I think people understand that these condominiums will bring benefit to the community," says Brady. "They will enable people to continue to live here, as opposed to moving away, and they will [are] generate jobs and wealth for the community."

Brady goes on to reveal the amount of interest that he has seen in Granite View, stating that over half of the 24 units are already reserved.

"These are great units and people are realizing that there will not be another condominium development built in the village for a long time, so they're anxious to secure a condo."

"What we're seeing is proof that the local community needs these new developments. And, if you need proof, the fact [is] that everyone who has purchased a unit at Granite Cove is from the area. We are not selling to GTA residents. We are selling to local people."

Brady's optimism is expected as he's a realtor, but the fact that more than 50 percent of the Granite View units are reserved before the building has even begun to be built, while across the lake only three condos are still available in the first condo, speaks volumes.

"What we're offering with both developments is residential space that is a lateral move from the lakefront cottage. It's affordable and often of comparable size and so people don't feel they are downsizing," says Brady. "Plus, at Granite Cove the property is almost on the shoreline so it's like having a cottage, but also being perfectly situated near the village, too."

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# Highlander people

## Mike 'the Sexy Senior Citizen'

By George Farrell

You might have seen Mike Napolitano singing the American national anthem at the roller derby in Wilberforce, at the Pinestone cutting a rug with Sheri Hawkins on New Year's Eve, or singing up a storm as one of the featured performers at a recent Hootenanny at the Dominion Hotel.

Napolitano is usually the oldest guy in the room, but one of the most active and noticeable. He's often accompanied by the songstress Hawkins, who everyone can thank for his continued effervescent presence at local events.

"I heard him singing in Gravenhurst," Hawkins said, "and I thought that I'd finally met my Frank Sinatra."

"She heard me sing at an open mic session and she told me she liked my voice," Napolitano concurs. "So she asked me to sing with her. After that she invited me out to all these benefits. At these things most guys don't dance until after a few beers, so I told Sheri 'let's get out there on the dance floor' and as soon as we did all the women got up and surrounded us. Then shortly after, all the men got up. They felt that if an old guy in a walker could dance, so could they."

So that's how it works. You invite Sheri and Mike to your event and between the two of them they get things rocking. What's so amazing about this dapper, still-handsome



'Sexy Senior Citizen' Mike Napolitano at the Dominion Hotel. Photo by George Ferrell.

man is that he'll turn 90 in June.

"If there is such a thing as a perfect man, he's it," Hawkins said.

So what's Napolitano got going for him that men half his age don't have? It's partly his boundless energy, partly his love of music and dance, but perhaps most of all it's his love of the opposite sex.

His mom probably had something to do with it. Born in the Bronx into an extended Italian family, she used to sing to him when

he was young. "She was from Naples and she had this fantastic voice and she'd sing us to sleep every night," Napolitano said.

"We'd hear opera on the radio and that's where I learned it. I never had formal training, but it's in my blood." Napolitano then burst out in a bawdy rendition of *O Sole Mio* using his own words. He'll sing at the drop of a hat.

Napolitano married Irma, his high school sweetheart, and upon graduation worked odd jobs in New York, one of them as a hook cleaner in a slaughterhouse.

"I was making \$25 a week, which was a man's pay back in 1940," he said. By 1942 he was drafted in the US army. He drove the tractor which pulled the huge artillery pieces into action.

In December of 1944, he went overseas to help with the relief of soldiers who were fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. "We were moving heavy artillery around and the shells exploded 12 feet above the ground for maximum effect," he said.

"After the war was over, we stayed on for some occupation work, protecting the Germans, who we had just been fighting against, from attacks by the people they had oppressed. We helped the Germans by paying them for little jobs. We also set up some bistros and we had to be referees in altercations between American soldiers from the Deep South and some African American soldiers, but we were happy that no one was shooting at us anymore."

Returning from Europe in '46, Napolitano took advantage of the GI Bill to attend courses in the export trade and because he was fluent in Spanish, he was soon thriving with Irma and their two children, "a boy and a girl, both now over 60."

Next came a series of jobs, one of them as a money lender for people in Harlem.

"They literally embraced me, a white man in Harlem, because I was lending them money on behalf of a small loans department," he said. That job led to a position with the Chemical Bank, where he spent the next 23 years.

In 1979 Irma passed away. "She was a heavy smoker and got lung cancer and it finally caught up to her," Napolitano said. Helping her hold on to her life changed Mike

forever and he became disenchanted with his country.

"The doctors in the States told her she had 30 days to live, so I took her to Mexico for alternative treatment and she lived another three years. I'm in the USA and I have to go to Mexico for treatment? They were fabulous there. We stayed a month. She had six doctors, meals, a room and the treatment – all for \$2,000. In the States it would have cost 80 grand."

The treatment Irma received was based on injections of laetrile, a controversial serum derived from apricot pits. During Irma's ordeal, Napolitano immersed himself in what was to become his obsession: the prevention of cancer.

After Irma passed away, he continued to find out more. He met a Canadian woman named Sheila Snow and through her he heard about another Canadian woman named Rene Caisse, who was working with natural herbal remedies to help in the prevention of cancer. A product called Essiac (Caisse spelled backwards), made from the herbs, claims to contain properties which build up the immune system and fights cancer cell proliferation.

During a fishing trip to Ontario, Napolitano met up again with Snow and the two fell in love.

"We were both working on cancer prevention," he said. "So I moved to Canada in 1980 to be with her. We lived together in Port Carling for 28 years until she passed away in April of 2008. It was a stroke and I was really devastated. It was an incredible marriage."

Napolitano, who's had his own health issues, refused to pine away and instead kept dancing to stay in shape.

"I've been in a walker now for a year-and-a-half. I could get a hip replacement but I'm not going to get it done. I've had pneumonia, a rheumatic heart condition and I could have been dead a lot of times already, but I take Essiac a couple of times a week and I always treat my body with a lot of respect."

"Eat your veggies," Napolitano advises, "and stay away from sugars, white flours and white rice. You can call the Canadian Cancer Society and they will send you a diet to help prevent cancer, free of charge."

According to Napolitano, "We don't spend nearly enough money on prevention and way too much money goes into trying to find a cure for cancer."

Napolitano believes that a healthy attitude to life is as important as a healthy body.

"Live your life like it was your last day, but look forward to tomorrow," is one saying he believes in. He also believes in not trying to solve the problems of the world.

"Work within your community," he advises, "and the world will fix itself one community at a time."

Those are sound tenets to live by, but even if most tried, very few would ever have the appeal, energy and love of life that Napolitano has.

"He has women calling him night and day," said Sheri Hawkins, who is responsible for the 'Sexy Senior Citizen' moniker, "and if you could bottle what he has and sell it, you'd be a billionaire."



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# Senior highlanders

## Stop the cramps

Dear Penny,

The older I get, the more often I am awakened at night with leg cramps. Sometimes it's in my foot. Other times it's in my calf. There doesn't seem to be any pattern to it and I can't seem to figure out what brings it on. I try to walk it off, but that doesn't usually work. Any ideas?

Crampy Grampy

Dear Grampy,

Cramps are very common especially as we age. The literature reports that at least 95 percent of us will experience cramps at some point in our lives and while older people get cramps more often than younger folks, children get them too.

The muscles that move our joints are normally under voluntary control, but sometimes these muscles may contract and cramp. A cramp is pain caused by an involuntary and sustained contraction of a muscle.

Cramps may last anywhere from a couple of minutes to a quarter hour or more and they can be very painful indeed. Sometimes the muscle relaxes and the cramp goes away only to return minutes later. Knowing what to do is important.

There are many causes for leg cramps including: muscle fatigue from overuse, dehydration, imbalance of electrolytes, improper medications, poor circulation or too much weight.

Some cramps are "idiopathic", a medical term meaning the cause is unknown. Most leg cramps are of no consequence except that they hurt and may disturb your sleep or other activities.

Since the source of leg cramps varies from unimportant to serious, it's worth asking your doctor to investigate and if you haven't been checked out medically, I urge you to do so. If the source of the problem can be identified, a solution is usually possible.

That said, let's assume your leg cramps have no serious underlying cause and you want to get rid of them quickly when they occur. Pills are rarely useful because medication takes too long to be absorbed to help with the immediate pain of a leg cramp. So what do you do?

If you Google "leg cramps", you'll find thousands of sites

## Aging Well

selling "stuff" to cure your cramps. As far as I know, none of them work.

You'll also find suggestions for eliminating cramps when they occur. A common suggestion is to apply heat with a hot water bottle or heating pad and some people claim the steady warmth gives them relief.

Another suggestion is massage but in my experience, massage is iffy. Sometimes it works, sometimes not, and it's usually painful to massage a cramped muscle.

When cramps are caused by an electrolyte imbalance after strenuous physical activity, a power drink may help. If the cause is dehydration, any fluid intake helps.

The most reliable way I know of to eliminate any cramp is to "pull it out". Walking it off rarely works because the pull on the muscle is too brief to be effective. You need a slow, steady pull on the affected muscle in the opposite direction to the cramp. A steady stretch stimulates relaxation of the muscle.

If your toes or your foot are cramped, grab your toes with your hand and pull your toes towards the ceiling. Maintain a slow, even pull on those toes to get the contracted muscle to relax. Don't let go for several minutes—at least until you are confident the cramp won't return immediately.

If the cramp is in your calf, place the affected leg behind you so the opposite leg is in the lunge position ahead of you. Place your hands on your forward knee to steady yourself, or put both palms against a wall. Keep the heel of the rear leg in contact with the floor so you feel a steady pull on the cramped calf muscle. Hold the pull until the muscle relaxes.

Wherever the cramp is, pull in the opposite direction and maintain a steady stretch until the muscle releases.

*Readers, if you have any other questions—about your mobility, your comfort, or just about getting through your day more safely and easily, I want to hear them. For real-life answers you can use, write to penny@haliburtonhighlander.ca.*



By Penny Brown

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## A geranium tea and lunch fundraiser

Event proceeds will help buy hospital equipment

Submitted by Joan Stinson

The Haliburton Hospital Auxiliary will host a geranium tea and lunch on May 27 from 12-2 pm at the Haliburton Community Room. The tea is a fundraiser, with all proceeds going to purchase hospital equipment.

Come join the fun with a loonie auction, flower demonstration and door prizes. Tickets are \$8 per person and can be obtained by calling Joan at 705-457-3919.

## Correction: OPP fallen officers story

In the April 19 edition, the story *OPP honours Haliburton County's fallen officers* identified Detective Sergeant Lorne Chapitis and Corporate James Smith as officers with the OPP's Haliburton Highlands detachment. Det. Sgt. Chapitis and Corp. Smith were serving with the Peterborough detachment when they responded to a request from Minden officers to assist in a call and were killed on December 11, 1968. The Haliburton Highlands detachment has established memorials to honour these officers' service to Haliburton County residents.

*The Highlander* regrets any distress the error may have caused.

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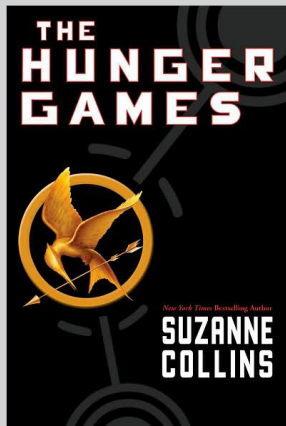
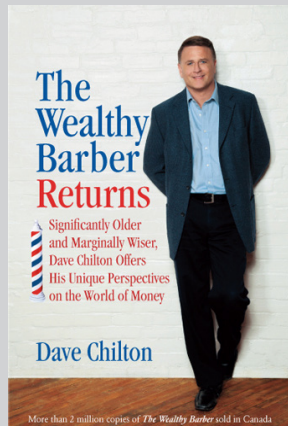
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# Highlander community

## Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are the top 5 fiction and non-fiction titles as requested at the Haliburton County Public Library for the week of April 30 – May 6.



### HCPL's TOP 5 FICTION

1. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins
2. *Down the Darkest Road* by Tami Hoag
3. *Calico Joe* by John Grisham
4. *Death Comes To Pemberley* by PD James
5. *The Accident* by Linwood Barclay 🇨🇦

### HCPL's TOP 5 NON-FICTION

1. *The Wealthy Barber Returns* by David Chilton 🇨🇦
2. *Under An Afghan Sky* by Mellissa Fung 🇨🇦
3. *Something Fierce* by Carmen Aguirre 🇨🇦
4. *Steve Jobs* by Walter Isaacson
5. *Drop Dead Healthy* by A.J. Jacobs

The only change to HCPL's hot reads lists this week is that *The Accident* by Canadian favourite Linwood Barclay is back. The *Accident* has been consistently popular at the library since it was released last year, but it has recently gained further momentum when it was included on the 2012 Evergreen shortlist. Linwood Barclay fans should note that he has a new book coming out later this year. The new novel will be called *Trust Your Eyes* and its tentative release date is early September. *Trust Your Eyes* will follow a schizophrenic man named Thomas Kilbride who is obsessed with online map surfing (think Google Maps Street View). One day, while virtually walking the streets of New York City, he comes across a window where it appears a woman is being murdered. It turns out that he has stumbled upon a deadly conspiracy – but who will believe him? Keep your eyes out for this novel this fall, but in the meanwhile, you can enjoy *The Accident* in print or e-book formats, available at your library.

### Library News

Starting on May 9 at the Dysart Branch, the Haliburton County Public Library will be offering business workshops through Contact North, Ontario's Distance Education and Training Network. The workshops will run every Wednesday. Refer to our website at [www.haliburtonlibrary.ca](http://www.haliburtonlibrary.ca) for a full list of topics and times.

## Horticultural heaven in Minden

### Famed naturalist speaks to flower enthusiasts

By George Farrell

Over 100 flower enthusiasts entered a horticultural heaven at the Minden Community Centre on Saturday, April 21 for the Ontario Horticultural Association (OHA) District 4 annual general meeting (AGM). District 4, one of 19 such districts in Ontario, stretches from Haliburton County to as far south as Brighton. Representatives from all 17 horticultural societies, including Minden, were in attendance.

The event was a coup for the 18 member Minden society, as it was the first time in 10 years that Minden had hosted the AGM. It was an all-day event with the morning being taken up by business, during which Jeff Blackadar, the District 2 director, brought greetings on behalf of OHA president Carol Dunk, who could not attend. Guests and locals alike were treated to edible goodies and drinks and some exotic flora on the display tables.

One of the highlights came in the form of celebrity horticulturist and naturalist Martin Galloway, who was the event's guest speaker.

Galloway has a wealth of knowledge on plant life and animals at his disposal. He's taught biology and botany at Seneca College and the University of Toronto for years and his presentation skills have been honed to a fine point of delivery. To say that Galloway is entertaining is not enough.

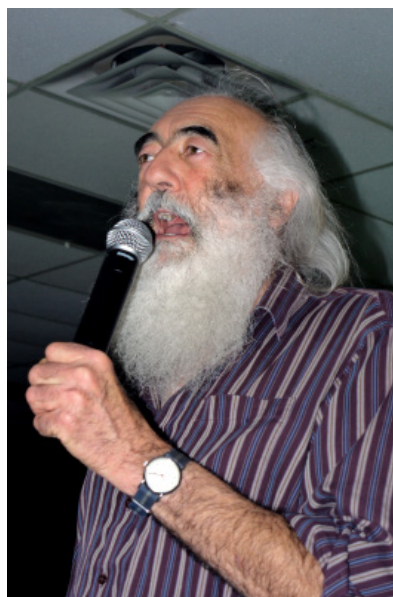
He's a big, full-bearded man, generously endowed with vigor and enthusiasm – traits which made him the perfect host for the critically acclaimed TV series *The Secret World of Gardens*. Galloway also owns Chalk Lake Nurseries in Uxbridge, which supplies plants to many of the larger gardening centres in Southern Ontario.

"I started in the business at 14," said Galloway, "when I met an old estate gardener from Ireland and I've been a naturalist since I could walk."

"I really enjoy talking and meeting people and take it as a civil responsibility," he said. "I give 25 to 30 talks a year, but I'm having trouble fitting them into my life."



Diane Hearse and Don Wick.



Martin Galloway.

Galloway, who regularly gets up at five in the morning, took a much needed sabbatical last year and travelled all over the world with his son.

"We took 75,000 photographs," he said. Photos, in the form of slides were used to illustrate his talk, which lasted the better part of two hours and was titled *Plant Adaptations to Different Kinds of Environments*.

Galloway took the rapt audience from early plant life like mosses, which are dependent on water for reproduction to the more complicated ferns. He moved on to other plants and then to trees like conifers, which evolved so that they no longer depend on a water source for reproduction. From there, Galloway, (with many humorous asides that had the audience in hysterics), proceeded to different environments, the formation of flowering plants, and the interdependence

and co-evolution of various plant species with pollinators like insects, hummingbirds and mammals.

Galloway, who advocates the cultivation of native species, surprised some of the avid gardeners present by saying that he seldom watered his own gardens and let insects like aphids and ants have their way among his plants.

"Plants have a tolerance for being eaten," he said. "Aphids are not the enemy. They are part and parcel of a healthy garden. Some native plants attract beneficial insects that control pests and sustain the food chain that supports birds and other wildlife."

Liz Case, the new president of the Minden Horticultural Society, was effusive in her praise for Galloway.

"He's such a good draw," she said. "He's so dynamic and full of knowledge and he's a great presenter."

## OPP lay over 5,000 seatbelt charges

With OPP files

During their week-long Spring Seat Belt Campaign (April 14 to 22), Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) laid a total of 5,585 seat belt related charges in the province.

There weren't any fatalities that stemmed from the charges; however, eight people were injured in collisions in which seat belt non-compliance was a factor.

"Despite the fact that seat belt legislation has been around for over 35 years and has saved countless lives, one in four deceased occupants last year were not properly restrained,"

said Larry Beechey, OPP Provincial Commander for Traffic Safety, Deputy Commissioner.

In 2011, 71 Ontarians lost their lives in collisions in which seat belt non-compliance was a factor. Non-use of seat belts remains one of the four major causes of persons killed in fatal motor vehicle collisions along with speeding, impaired driving and driving while distracted.

The motoring public should remain aware that, as part of its Provincial Traffic Safety Program, the OPP will continue to aggressively enforce all traffic safety laws throughout the year, including seat belt legislation.

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# Highlander business

## New boutique sets the scene

### Heritage House Café expands business

By Douglas Pugh

It is one of Haliburton’s little secrets. Tucked away from the main drag, set in one of Haliburton’s oldest buildings, is the Heritage House Café. Serving some of the very best coffee to be found – not only in the locality, but from around the globe – along with a great selection of food, the Heritage House Café has a steady flow of customers throughout the day.

Not content to rest on her laurels though, owner Nicola Jowett has expanded the business to include a boutique selling a wonderful selection of high quality products, including items for home decor, art and clothing, as well as music CDs from local artists.

“Every product,” proudly declares Jowett, “has a link to the café, whether it is something that is made by one of our regular customers, or featuring their input. It’s important to have reasonable prices alongside the high-end quality too.”

Covering a range of goods that include retro clothing from Red Canoe, throws from Cobi Style, artwork and hand painted paddles from Voyager Co. and cushions from Lori Harrison, among many others, there is sure to be something for everyone.

“We did have a batch of t-shirts with a Haliburton logo that I designed myself,” said Jowett, “but we’ve sold out of those and are waiting for new supplies. It’s been so rewarding seeing how successful it has been already.”



Cushions, candles and retro-style clothing by Red Canoe.

Jowett’s own brand of Haliburton promotional wear is intended to widen its range into t-shirts and sweats to accommodate not only men and women, but kids too.

“Quality is the most important, but price too,” said Jowett. “I like to think of it as champagne taste on a beer budget.”

Among the more unusual items are a pair of cushions made from silk maps that World War 2 airmen used in operations over Germany.

“My brother made those. The airmen used silk maps so that they wouldn’t dissolve in the sea if they had to bail out,” said Jowett.

Alongside the boutique, the Heritage will shortly be opening its outdoor tables, looking remarkably like a Parisian bistro and a small, more private patio setting at the rear of the building that will be a new addition to the business.



Stunningly set in a canoe styled shelf, a superb selection of quality candles and pottery. Photos by Doug Pugh.



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# Highlander sports

**Highlands Festival Singers**  
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LES MISERABLES  
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Tickets \$15:00  
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Cranberry Cottage - Haliburton  
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Saturday, May 12 at 7:30 p.m.  
Sunday, May 13 at 2:30 p.m.

Northern Lights Performing  
Arts Pavilion



## Storm Bantam B girls battle it out in season finisher

Submitted by Sheana Allore

The Minden Car Quest Highland Storm Bantam B girls travelled to Mississauga recently to take part in their first Ontario Women's Hockey Association Provincial Championship. The girls were in a pool with Sudbury, Lucan-Irish and Etobicoke.

The first game against Sudbury was a hard fought nail-biter. The Storm girls had to get the rust off quickly, having not played a game in over a month. Sudbury scored the lone goal marker of the game mid-way through the first period off a poor clearing attempt during the penalty kill, with the opposing D shooting a puck through a maze of players and finding its way through the five-hole and into the back of the net. They battled the talented Lady Wolves tirelessly every shift but could not find the net to even the score. Even with the goalie pulled late in the game, the Storm girls could not find a way to put one past the Sudbury net-minder. The game was one of the best contests of the year, but the final score was 1-0 in favour of the opposition.

In the next game on Saturday night, the Minden Car Quest Bantam Bs took on Lucan-Irish. Again, the girls worked relentlessly the entire game, pushing their opponents every shift of the game. Lucan-Irish jumped out to an early 1-0 lead, but the Storm squad did not give up. Even after a late Lucan-Irish goal in the second period, the girls never quit.

Sydney Feir finished off a nice give and go to draw close 2-1 in the third period, but the Lucan-Irish squad capitalized on another missed clearing opportunity and put one past Connor Marsden to make the score 3-1 – also

the final score.

The two losses made the Storm girls' third game of the tourney on Saturday a spoiler game against Etobicoke Dolphins – who had tied Sudbury in their second game. Etobicoke proved to be another strong squad pushing the Storm girls to dig deep to take on their talented opponents. Etobicoke scored a fluky early in the first period that dipped, skipped and bounced its way to the back of the net. With a little wind taken out of their sails, the girls fought back firing a barrage of pucks at the Etobicoke net-minder. Erin Little made a nice rush early in the third period to tie the game 1-1. The Dolphins never quit as well and late in the third period snuck in a power play marker off another failed clearing attempt by the Storm squad. The final score: 2-1.

Many lost scoring chances was the drawback of the weekend. But solid goaltending by Marsden kept every game close. The girls were in every game but could not muster enough scoring punch to move them into the final 12 teams in the Ontario Championship with continued play on Sunday.

The weekend was a true play-off battle where the Storm girls showed their passion for the game in tightly checked and fast-paced, high energy games. These "Don Cherry muckers" worked tirelessly all weekend, trying to extend their hockey season. All in all, the season was an exciting one.

Registration is in May but remember the off-season expectations of strengthening and conditioning as the girls move into the midget ranks next year.

The entire team, staff and parents would like to thank their sponsor, Minden Car Quest, for their wonderful support all year!

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# Highlander sports



After a great scrimmage, the Highland Roller Girls and the South Simcoe Rebel Rollers pose for a group shot.

## Highland Roller Girls scrimmage in Orillia

By Erin Lynch

The Highland Roller Girls travelled to Orillia on Wednesday, April 18 to scrimmage with the South Simcoe Rebel Rollers.

The unofficial bout gave the local team an opportunity to hone skills and learn new plays. With extra players and more experience, the South Simcoe Roller Girls defeated the Highland Roller Girls 137 to 90.

Both leagues are coached by local roller derby aficionada, Kayla Wilkins aka Brim Stone. This week, the Highland Roller Girls

move back to Minden, practicing in the arena on Thursday nights. The league has been practicing in the high school cafeteria all winter.

"I can't wait to be back in a bigger space. We need to build up our endurance," says Amy Brohm aka Trip Tease.

The Highland Roller Girls hope to invite the South Simcoe Rebel Rollers to Minden in May to scrimmage on their own turf.

Interested in Roller Derby? Email [highlandrollergirls@gmail.com](mailto:highlandrollergirls@gmail.com).

## Students curl for elementary school championship

Submitted by John Childs

Parry Sound hosted the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Timbits Provincial Elementary School Championship from April 12-15. With 80 teams competing, over 350 students, their coaches, parents, grandparents and friends all embarked on a weekend of excitement and challenges. Teams travelled from as far away as Ottawa, Aylmer and Cochrane.

Five teams travelled from Haliburton County to participate in this competition.

Archie Stouffer Elementary School was represented by three teams that curl out of the Minden Curling Club. They were skipped by Sam Pilcher, Daniel Murdoch and Emma Cox.

JD Hodgson Elementary School was represented by two teams. Cody Williams skipped the team that plays at the Minden Curling Club and Tory Hawley skipped the team from the Haliburton Curling Club.

Games were played continuously at the Parry Sound Curling Club (four sheets) and the Bobby Orr Community Centre (six sheets) from Thursday morning until Saturday afternoon.

At the opening ceremonies on Friday evening, over 400 athletes and coaches, all wearing Timbits Anniversary jackets, were piped through the arena. Each team carried its school sign. At this time, awards were presented to the top three teams for the hot shot competition, with JDH's Team Williams taking the third place award.

The 80 teams were divided into 16 pools of five with the winner of each pool's four-game round-robin play advancing to the championship round. All teams played well. Team Pilcher and Team Hawley both won three games.

The JDH team of Williams, Alanna Casper, Glenn Bagg, Zack Williams and Sam Miller, coached by John Childs, won all four round-robin games to guarantee them a place in the finals on Sunday. They lost their second playoff game (to the eventual championship team from Sudbury), bounced back with two more wins and were declared third event winners. It was very exciting for the young curlers to receive their awards at the closing ceremonies and a satisfying way to end their curling season.

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# Highlander classifieds

## SERVICES

**ODD JOB JACK - YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN** since 2008 for renos, demos and repairs, interior and exterior painting and staining, home and cottage cleaning, cottage maintenance, grounds keeping, dump runs, eavestrough cleaning...you name it! What can we do for you? 705-448-9965 oddjobjack@yahoo.ca

**JESSICA'S CLEANING SERVICES** - "Need help to clean, Call in our team" - We offer cottage, household, or business cleaning services. Contact us today at 705-854-2955

**SIMPLY GOOD HOUSEKEEPING** - since 1999. And that is simply what I do - clean your house so you don't have to. Serving Minden, Haliburton, Bancroft areas. Year round or seasonal. Weekly, biweekly, monthly or as needed. Residential, cottage and commercial. Final clean upon moving. Cottage checks in off season or as needed. References available. 705-448-1178 dogpawledge@gmail.com

**K9 KLIPPERS & KENNELS** - Professional grooming & a home away from home!! 2153 Harburn Rd 705-457-3614

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**SAW SHARPENING** - hand saws, blades, carbides, knives, etc. Quick, even turnaround service. 1787 Barry Line, Algonquin Highlands, Garry Cooper 705-754-3954

## SERVICES

**TOM'S HELPING HANDS** Reliable person to do handyman services. Atom Heating and Air. Serving Simcoe County for 15 years...now the Highlands. Natural gas, propane, and oil Installation, sales, and service. 705-309-1510 (cell) or 705-286-4030

**THE KITCHEN GUY** home improvements, renos, painting, staining, cottage maintenance, spring clean ups - call 705-489-1875

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**HOUSE FOR RENT** Camarvon, 2 bedroom, clean, \$1100 per month including utilities and lawn maintenance, first and last required, call 705-489-3131 (daytime) or 705-754-4534 (evenings)

**5 BEDROOM HOME** on Soyers Lake. Available now. \$1650 /month plus utilities. "no smoking" First & last req'd. 705-306-0918 (TFN)

**1 BEDROOM APARTMENT** between Minden and Haliburton, \$575 utilities included, available July 1, first & last and references required. No pets. 705-286-0343 (TFN)

**BARNYARD MANURE** - black compost or last winter's, sold by trailer or pick-up load, I load you, price according to size of trailer or pick-up, 705-286-1939

**FARM FRESH EGGS** free range local, \$3 per dozen. Duck eggs \$5 per dozen. Owl Farm, 705-935-0357 (TFN)

## FOR SALE

14' fiberglass boat \$400 OBO, 15 cubic ft chest freezer \$100 OBO, 4 aluminum rims with low profile tires 205/40ZR17 (came off a '99 VW Jetta) \$160 OBO. Call 705-754-1400 (M3)

Large 3 seater Blue/Grey cushion sofa. BEST OFFER. 416-652-5852 (A26)

**FREE TO A GOOD HOME** - miniature pot belly pigs: mother Lisa (adult), baby Betty - pink, 6 months old plus two 2.5 month old babies (1 pink, 1 black) call Nedean 705-457-0058 (M17)

## WANTED

**STORAGE GARAGE** for classic car for 6 months or longer. Must have access and be on paved road if possible. Close to Minden. Call or email, 705-306-0697 email gitcher@interhop.net

**ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES** - trade your unique and antique items for cash, visit Why Not Collect It coming soon to its new location at 199 Highland St, Haliburton, 705-457-1515

**HOUSEKEEPING** - Looking for part-time housekeeping weekdays & weekends. Motel in Minden. 705-286-6900. (A26)

**LANDSCAPER** - Full-time, seasonal landscaper labourer wanted for busy landscape & construction firm. Experience preferred but will train. Own transportation required. Salary commensurate with experience, for further info call Jamie 705-935-0091 (M3/TFN)

## HELP WANTED

**NOW HIRING** - for the summer season, all positions: servers, kitchen staff and security. Drop off resume in person or email to rockcliffetavern@hotmail.com

**TECHNICIAN** - Class A technician, 310S, 5 years minimum experience, must have own tools, wage negotiated upon experience. Phone 705-457-1411, FAX 705-457-2864, countyautomotive@hotmail.com

**MECHANIC** - licensed Class A mechanic, Minden area, full time, 705-455-7217

## LOST / FOUND

**LOST** - Ladies gold eternity ring with diamonds, lost on April 12, in the 4C's, Home Hardware, Rexall or Foodland Areas. Reward. 705-457-9549

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX PREPARATION** at the Haliburton Legion starting Tuesday, Feb 21 from 9 am to 2 pm; last day is April 23. At the Wilberforce Legion, starting Feb 22 from 2 pm to 3:30 pm, last day is April 25. Open to everyone. (A26)

**ALCOHOL PROBLEMS?** Call Alcoholics Anonymous. We care. 705-324-9900. (TFN)

## THANK YOU

**THANK-YOU** to everyone who attended our recent Wild Game Dinner and Auction. To all those who donated wild game or auction items, all volunteers and to Legion Branch 129, approximately \$6800.00 was raised for our on-going conservation efforts. We could not have done it without you. See you at next years event. Thank-you, Wild Game Dinner Committee, Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association

## HELP WANTED



### Now hiring

- Banquet servers/bartenders
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**HELP WANTED** We are looking for full and part-time motivated associates for our sales desk and yard material handler. Knowledge of building and materials required. **MUST BE BONDABLE.**

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Please send resume to  
wildmoose@wildmoose-resort.com

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### The Highlander is looking for a COMMISSION SALES REPRESENTATIVE

to help develop our growing advertiser base, particularly for special sections, new products and out-of-county clients. You will have at least 5 years' sales experience, preferably but not necessarily in media, with the ability to promote *The Highlander* professionally and effectively. The position can be based anywhere in Haliburton County, making it ideal for a seasoned sales professional looking to work from home; part-time is possible.

**Please send your resume and cover letter to louse@haliburtonhighlander.ca.**



### MUNICIPALITY OF HIGHLANDS EAST POSITION AVAILABLE

**Position Title:** Trails and Economic Development Intern  
**Department:** Office

The Municipality of Highlands East in conjunction with funding from the Haliburton County Development Corporation is seeking an individual to work as a Trails and Economic Development Intern.

**Job Purpose Summary** - As part of developing the Trails and Economic Development initiatives within Highlands East the Intern will be responsible for gathering information, creating databases and creating a permanent sustainable information management process through the guidance of Committee Chairs and the CAO.

They will work closely with municipal staff, local businesses and county and provincial agencies, and collect information on business activities, tourist attractions in the Municipality. From the information collected, the successful candidate will develop and implement strategies for marketing and promoting the area.

**Hours of work:** 35 hours/week - 30 WEEK CONTRACT POSITION  
**Days of work:** Monday - Fridays  
**Rate of pay:** \$15.00 per hour  
**Deadline for application - May 15, 2012 @ 3:00 P.M.**  
**Please contact the undersigned for job description**

If you are contacted by the Municipality of Highlands East regarding a job opportunity or testing, please advise if you require accommodation. Information received relating to accommodation needs of applicants will be addressed confidentially. Persons with a disability preventing them from applying on-line should contact the undersigned to discuss alternative solutions. Interested applicants to apply in writing, stating qualifications to:

Sharon Stoughton-Craig, CAO/Treasurer  
Municipality of Highlands East  
P.O. Box 285  
Wilberforce, ON  
K0L 3C0 Ph 705-448-2881 ext 227  
Email: sstocraig@highlandseast.ca  
Web Page: highlandseast.ca

We thank all candidates who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of candidate selection.



# Highlander events

## OBITUARIES

**MACRAE (Nee Miscio), Teresa "Terry"** - Peacefully in her 80th year, surrounded by her loving family after a courageous battle with cancer. Beloved wife of John for 40 years. Loving Mom of April and Chris Simpkins and Jeremy and Haley MacRae. Loved and cherished Grandma of Ashley and Brianna Simpkins and Jeralyn MacRae. Dear daughter of the late Alfred and Bernice Miscio. Sister of Mikel, Waneita, June, Tony (Linda) and Dona (Guy). Aunt to many nieces and nephews. Family and friends will be received at the **LOW AND LOW FUNERAL HOME**, 23 Main St. S., Uxbridge (905) 852-3073 on Saturday, April 28th, 2012 for visitation beginning at 2:30pm until time of service in the chapel at 4pm. Reception to follow. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Canadian Cancer Society. For online condolences, please visit [www.lowandlow.ca](http://www.lowandlow.ca)

## EVENTS

### Ontario Early Years Centres



A Place For Parents And Their Children.

**Making a difference for children and families for 10 years**

### Anniversary Celebration

**Haliburton OEYC, Maple Ave.  
Saturday April 28  
from 10 a.m. to noon**

Children's drumming circle  
with John Proctor  
of Earth Tones Studio

Crafts, Activities &  
Refreshments



705-457-2989

## MINDEN & DISTRICT HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S MEETING

**May 1, 2012 at 7 pm**

**"SPEAKER"**

**CHRISTINE GILL  
TOPIC**

**"GROWING GOOD DELPHINIUMS"**

At the

**MINDEN COMMUNITY CENTRE**

55 Park St. Minden, Memberships will be available at the door  
\$10 single and \$18 per couple

The following garden centres have offered our members a 10% discount on "plant material" when showing their membership card: Carey's, Minden; Country Rose, Haliburton; Minden Fresh Fruit & Vegetable Market and Pine Reflections, Carnarvon

For more information call Jessie 705-286-4141

**ALL WELCOME**

## April - May 2012

## TheHighlander Community Calendar

### APRIL 30 - May 4, 2012 UPCOMING EVENTS

**May 3 to July 14 - 10,000 Hours,**  
Agnes Jamieson Gallery, sculptor Oscar  
Ross shows a combination of metal  
sculptures of figures as well as numerous  
figure drawings

**May 9 - Haliburton Highlands Quilt  
Guild AGM, 1 pm, Stanhope Community  
Centre, Pat Stiver 705-489-3751**

**May 20 - Maple, Beech & Cameron  
Lakes Property Owners' Association  
AGM, Firemen's Hall, North Shore  
Road, Algonquin Highlands, 12:30 pm -  
registration, 1 pm - meeting, members  
only (membership may be purchased at  
the door), contact Doug Palmer 705-489-  
3799**

### Thursday - 26

- Bid Euchre, Minden Community Centre, 1-4 pm, Bev, 705-286-3085

### Friday - 27

- Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library AGM and Members Appreciation Afternoon, Common Room, Minden Hills Cultural Centre, 1 pm, guest speaker Ava Homa, author of Echoes from the Other Land: Stories of Modern Iranian Women. Free for members, \$5 for the public. Refreshments provided.
- Community Care Diner's Club, Wilberforce Legion, 12 noon, 705-457-2941
- Cribbage, Community Care, Haliburton, 1pm, 705-457-2941
- Bid Euchre, Minden Community Centre, 1 pm to 4 pm, Bev, 705-286-3085

### Saturday - 28

- SIRCH Hike for Hospice, collect pledges individually or in a team, meet at HHSS at 10:15 am to register, 100% of funds raised stay in our community
- Haliburton County Snowmobile Association AGM, Sandy Lane Resort, Highway 35 north of Camarvon, 10 am, everyone welcome
- OEYC Haliburton, 10 Year Anniversary Celebration, 10 am-noon, celebration includes children's drumming circle with John Proctor of Earth Tones Studio, crafts, activities and refreshments, for families with children 0-6 years old - siblings welcome, 705-457-2989

### Monday - 30

- Parent Child Mother Goose, Haliburton Ontario Early Years Centre (ending Monday, April 30), 10-11 am, for parents and children (newborn to 2.5 years) learning rhymes, songs and stories together, enjoy a friendly and relaxed morning of fun and learning, register with OEYC at 705-286-4625 or 705-457-2989, offered in partnership with Point in Time
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Minden, 6 pm, 705-286-1444
- Haliburton County Table Tennis Club, 6-9 pm, St. George's Church, 617 Mountain Street, Haliburton, Mary or Jeff Martin, 705-457-2260
- Celebrate Recovery, Lakeside Baptist Church, 7-10 pm, admin@lakesidebaptist.ca
- Contract Bridge, Community Care, Haliburton, 1 pm, 705-457-2941

### MAY

#### Tuesday - 1

- Wii, Community Care, Haliburton, 9:30 am, 705-457-2941
- Yoga at the library, Howard Roberts Room, 4 pm to 5 pm, admission by donation
- Euchre Night, West Guilford Recreation Centre, 7 pm to 10 pm, 705-754-1457,
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Minden, 9:30 am, 705-286-1444

#### Wednesday - 2

- Pickleball, Minden Community Centre, 9 am to 12 noon, equipment supplied, bring clean court/running shoes, contact Doug, 705-489-3850
- Community Drumming/Rhythm Circle, Rails End Gallery, 7:30 pm to 9 pm, 705-457-2330
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Wilberforce, 1 pm, 705-457-1909

#### Thursday - 3

- Minden Health Care Auxiliary General Meeting, Fireside Lounge, Hyland Crest, Haliburton Hospital, 1:30 pm, new members welcome, for more information, call John 705-286-2481
- CFUW HH Card Party & Lunch, West Guilford Community Centre, 12 pm, \$20/person including lunch. Bridge, euchre and other card game players welcome. All proceeds to the CFUW HH Scholarship Fund. 705-754-1066 for tickets.
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Haliburton, 9:30 am, 705-457-1909
- Taoist Tai Chi Open House, Kinmount, 9:30 am, 705-286-1444

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION?

### HALIBURTON Branch 129 - 705-457-2571

- Wednesdays - 7 pm, Bingo
- Last Thursday of month - 1 pm, Ladies Auxiliary

### MINDEN Branch 636 - 705-286-4541,

- rc1branch636@hotmail.com
- Mondays - 7:30 pm, Cribbage Night
- Wednesdays - lunch time Meat Draw

- Thursdays - 7:30 pm, Euchre
- Fridays - 5-7 pm, Fish & Chips Dinner

### WILBERFORCE Branch 624 - 705-448-2221, jandreamweaver@aol.com

- Sunday, April 29 - 8-11 am, Pancake & Sausage Breakfast, Ladies Auxiliary Appreciation Dinner - Cocktails 4 pm, dinner 6 pm \$12 for non LA members
- Tuesday, May 1 - 7pm, Executive

- Meeting
- Friday, May 3 - 5-7 pm, Ham & Scalloped Dinner
- Mondays - 7 pm, Bid Euchre
- Wednesdays - 7:30 pm, Darts
- Fridays - 1:30 pm, Pool; 7 pm, Jam Session
- Saturdays - 2pm, Meat Draw
- Sundays - 1-6 pm Free Pool, Retro Drink Prices

Veterans - if you require assistance completing any DVA forms, contact your local Legion Branch (membership not required) - we are here to assist you.

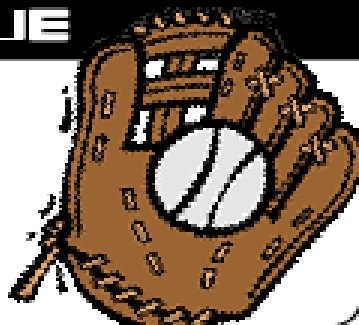
Email [louise@haliburtonhighlander](mailto:louise@haliburtonhighlander) to have your local event advertised.



# Highlander food

## MINDEN MIXED LOB BALL LEAGUE

Sign ups May 2 & 3  
at Rockcliffe Tavern  
6:30 pm to 8:30 pm  
Cost \$35  
705-344-1591



THOSE OTHER MOVIES presents

## DOC(K) DAY

Haliburton Documentary Film Festival  
Saturday, May 5th, 2012

*Too cold and buggy for your dock?  
Come sit in on ours.*

### Movie List

**10:00 am PINK RIBBONS, INC.**  
The "corporatization" of breast cancer.

**1:00 pm WEST WIND:  
THE VISION OF TOM THOMSON**  
The mystery, the nature, and never before seen works of art.

**3:00 pm THE GUANTANAMO TRAP**  
A provocative study of humanity and democracy.



**7:00 LABOUR OF LOVE**  
A 44 year old Huntsville woman cycles across America.  
(R, nudity, language)

### SPECIAL GUESTS PRIZES

**Tickets**  
**\$8.00 /movie      \$20/day**  
Available at the door  
or at the April 12th screening of  
*The Iron Lady* 4:15 7:15

Contact Marci 705-286-4659 or Peggy 705-286-3226

First Page SEO, McKee's The Blue Line,  
Barry Hart & Heather Alloway, Minden Pharmasave,  
Wintergreen Maple Syrup Barn, Anje Hikers/The Pampered Chef,  
Canoe FM, Emmerson Lumber, Floyd Hall Insurance Brokers,  
Haliburton Yoga, Highland Building Systems,  
Highlands Summer Festival, Magic Touch Day Spa,  
The Pump Shop, Todd's Your Independent Grocer,  
Haliburton Highlands Community Co-Op

**tiff. 365**  
film circuit

Northern Lights Performing Pavillion  
[www.haliburton-movies.com](http://www.haliburton-movies.com)

## Food for thought

# Wild turkey with peanut butter and beans

By Will Jones

While the Highlander food column aims to promote local producers, there are times of the year when there is little to be had from our own domestically grown larders. However, as if knowing this, Mother Nature provides and in April her bounty includes wild turkey.

This proud – and when hunting season arrives, elusive – bird was prized by Native Americans long before European settlers arrived in North America. They ate it fresh and also dried it to make a type of jerky that would last throughout winter. With colonization came Thanksgiving and the turkey became the focal point for a feast that variously celebrated the season's harvest or a successful crossing from the old country. While opinions differ as to the reason for Thanksgiving, we all agree that turkey tastes wonderful.

And so, with the turkey season just started and the camouflaged hunters crouching, creeping and calling their hearts out in the bush, what better recipe to share than one that will do the successfully shot and splendid, but unfortunately dead gobbler proud.

One turkey  
One cup of butter  
Eight onions  
Two 800ml tins of chopped tomatoes  
500ml of stock  
Eight tablespoons of peanut butter  
Two teaspoons of chilli powder  
Two tins of borlotti beans  
Salt and pepper to season



Portion the turkey and then chop the meat into nice big mouthful size chunks. Heat the butter in a large pan and drop in the turkey, stirring it until the meat is brown all over. Remove it from the pan and fry the onions until they are slightly coloured, then return the meat to the pan, along with the tomatoes, peanut butter and stock.

Stir the ingredients in the pan well to really mix in the peanut butter. Add a little salt and pepper, plus the chilli powder (how much depends upon your taste), cover the pan and cook for 15-20 minutes.

Next add the beans, cover again and cook until the meat is cook through but still nice and juicy. This could take between 30 minutes to an hour depending on how big your chunks of meat are.

Scoop out the pieces of meat and if there is too much juice reduce it by boiling it for a few minutes. Pour this wonderful tasting juice over the meat and serve with potatoes.

[www.haliburtonhighlander.ca](http://www.haliburtonhighlander.ca)

## The Voice of the Haliburton Highlands



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## ROTARY RAdio Day!

The Rotary Clubs of Haliburton and Minden will be taking over the airwaves on May 10th from 6am through to 6pm. Rotary members are selling ads in support of their day and all proceeds will go to the good work of Rotary in the Highlands. Be sure to listen. You'll learn about Rotary, about local projects and have a chance to win some nice prizes.

We are your not-for-profit, community radio station. Our volunteers and staff are dedicated to radio that serves the communities of the Haliburton Highlands



# Highlander technology

## The Computer Guy

### What's the best free anti-virus program?

With the increase of computer owners and availability of high speed internet in the Haliburton area viruses, spyware and malware are becoming a common problem to handle.

To stay safe it's always important to have up-to-date anti-virus software installed on your computer.

But what if you're on a limited budget or like me no budget and can't afford the software?

The question that I get from most clients in this position is, "What's the best free anti-virus program to get?"

There are many free anti-virus programs on the market.

While I won't attempt to rank the programs I'll try and give you an idea what programs may work for you.

Microsoft Security Essentials sports more than the Microsoft name; it's also a really good anti-virus. It's lightweight enough to run on older machines without crippling their performance, yet competent enough to handle most viruses and malware out there.

Perhaps the best part of MSE is its simplicity. The user interface is really clear, with large buttons for the most basic functions.

Finally, MSE is completely free – there's no

professional version you can upgrade to. In fact, it's even permissible to use in business situations. This alone sets it above most of the other free anti-virus programs.

AVG Free offers complete malware protection, with considerably less bloat than the top pay-to-use antivirus clients. And while AVG Free does constantly remind you that you could pay for the professional version of the program, it does this without ever getting in the way of the program's core purpose: protecting you from viruses.

Avira's right up there with MSE.

It's fairly lightweight, too, so the comparison is quite apt. While Avira does have a paid professional version to peddle, much like AVG, it's not quite as aggressive as AVG in peddling it. I'd say Avira is solid and worth looking into for sure.

Avast! stands up pretty well. It's remarkably complete. Expect great all-around protection, including against trojans and spyware. You can also expect constant

reminders that there's a free version you can upgrade to, on your desktop and in your inbox. Still, the protection is solid.

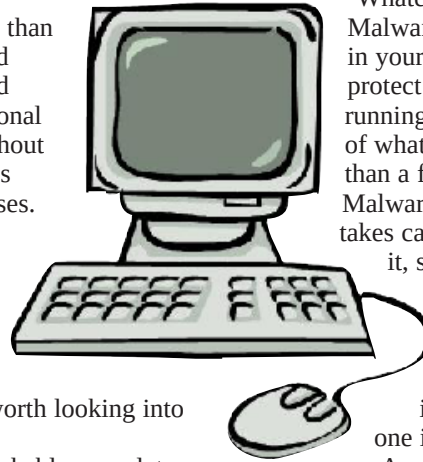
Whatever your default anti-virus is, you need Malwarebytes too. This program doesn't run in your system background and constantly protect you, but when you run into a problem running Malwarebytes will usually take care of what other programs can't. I've saved more than a few unbootable systems by running Malwarebytes from safe mode. This program takes care of any form of malware you throw at it, so keep it around.

All these programs can be downloaded from the internet absolutely free.

So, whatever program you decide is the one for you, make sure you have one installed and up-to-date.

Any questions or comments email me at [computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca](mailto:computerguy@haliburtonhighlander.ca).

Happy Safe Computing!



# Students take out the trash

## Rotary hosts second annual clean-up

By Mark Arike

Grade 7 and 8 students got their hands dirty on Friday, April 20 to show their support for Earth Day.

About 80 students with garbage bags in hand descended upon Head Lake Park for an hour of garbage removal. For their efforts, the Rotary Club of Haliburton hosted a barbeque with hamburgers and hot dogs donated by M&M Meat Shops and propane provided by the XTR gas station.

Dysart Councilor Andrea Roberts also attended to thank the students for their participation.



Left: Rotarians, left to right: Steve Roberts, Ted Brandon, Diane Smith, Andre Hodgson and Art Ward. Above: Andrew Hodgson shows the students the way. Photos by Mark Arike.

### Point in Time ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents invites you to attend their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Haliburton Curling Club, 730 Mountain Street Haliburton, Ontario K0M 1S0

Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm  
RSVP 705-457-5345 by May 4th.

Advertising in The Highlander really works! Call 705-457-2900 for special monthly rates



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